

Torrington Parks and Recreation Commission

Minutes of August 3, 2011 Meeting

Chairperson Patricia Fairchild called to order a regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission on Wednesday, August 3, 2011 at 6:00 P.M. at the Armory. In attendance were Commissioners Dan Lovallo and Jim Pescatore as well as Superintendent Brett Simmons and Recreation Director Donna Winn.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with as second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2011 commission meeting.

Correspondence

- Note from Stacey Munson regarding use of our yellow sign.

Citizen's Comments

- Frank Pennington stated his concern over a Santa Claus being a part of Main Street Marketplace on the past Thursday night. He wanted to know if Parks and Recreation has anything to do with it as it seemed to go against our policies regarding the presence of Santa. Commissioners will look into what took place that night as no one from the department was contacted regarding that.

Facility Use

- On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to approve the request by Michael Allen of Education Connection for a puppet show to be put on by Brooker Memorial at Coe Memorial Park during the summer lunch program. This is a onetime only approval and the guidelines for next year's request for use of the park by Education Connection will be discussed in early spring.
- The request for the Coe Memorial Park Civic Center by Jami Sylvester and Edwina Simmons for two dances was referred to Donna Winn who will meet with the two women on such plans.
- On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to approve the request with appropriate fees of Susan B. Anthony for Coe Memorial Park for their annual candlelight vigil on October 6, 2011.
- On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to approve the request of Nancy Cannavo in conjunction with Mayor Ryan Bingham for the Armory for a homeless simulation on October 26, 2011.
- On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the commission voted unanimously to approve the request of Nancy Connavo in conjunction with Mayor Ryan Bingham for Coe Memorial Park and the Armory for the annual Project Homeless Connect on May 11, 2012.

Commissioners stressed the importance of following the rules for Coe Memorial Park in regards to removal of tables.

Programs

Donna Winn reported:

- Make A Play camp is doing very well.
- Cheerleading camp had poor attendance and the hours were cut back to two hours.
- Summer concerts are going well.
- Summer playground program has sixty-four children enrolled. Many different trips have been planned for the campers.
- There have been no major issues with pool. We need to discuss fees for out of town users and perhaps initiate a punch pass system. On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the commission voted unanimously ban smoking within the confines of the pool area taking effect immediately.
- The finals for Northwest Idol will be held on August 20, 2011 at the Warner Theater.
- Our planned trips have not been going over very well with very limited participants.
- Mad Science has sixteen registered.
- The Movie Night is Tuesday, August 16, at Coe Memorial Park.
- Discussion took place on a sign for the front of the Armory or the downtown bridge which would advertise Parks and Recreation activities.

Sports Updates:

Donna reported that only one women's team could not get enough players. Brett Simmons stated the need to meet after the season to talk about the bat issue.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to approve the request of the umpires for a rate increase for the 2012 softball season. The rates will now be \$39 for the women's league and \$41 for the men's league.

Capital/Budget Update

Superintendent Simmons reported that he has met with Malone and McBroom in regards to the bleachers and field work at Fuessenich Park. Giordano Signs is working on the next round of signs for the parks. We are wrapping up last year's projects and starting on this year's smaller projects. Jiggs Donahue and Rec Hall will be paved in the first round of paving projects. Besse Pond basketball court will be the first of the courts to be renovated. A general use utility vehicle will be purchased.

Facility Operations

Brett provided commissioners with a list of on-going work, projects recently completed, current projects, upcoming events, upcoming projects and updated pool rules.

Coe Memorial Park

Brett provided commissioners with copies of the recent meeting packet which was distributed to members of the Coe Committee.

On a motion by Dan Lovallo with a second by Jim Pescatore, the commission voted unanimously to approve the responses of the commission to the motions of the Coe Committee made at their July 20, 2011 meeting.

Discussion occurred about the riding of bicycles on the lawns of Coe Memorial Park during the summer concerts.

Old Business

The Facility Review Committee needs to begin meeting again.

New Business

There will be a meeting on Christmas Village on August 16, 2011 at 4:00 at the Armory.

Other Business

None

On a motion by Jim Pescatore with a second by Dan Lovallo, the commission voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:35 P.M.

Minutes submitted by,

Patricia A, Fairchild

Chairperson and Recorder of the Day